

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST**

- Upcoming Events
- March Health Issue



Everyone's Irish
On March 17th.

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“THE VIEW FROM 524”



From the Senior Manager, Joan Campbell, CPM

Dear Residents,

Happy St. Patty's Day! May luck be with you this month. Make sure you don't miss the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 15, 2020. It starts at the Monument and is always so much fun.

OUTSIDE CHAIRS

We will be putting the outside chairs back in the garden area this spring. We are hoping that everyone follows the rules by not putting the chairs out on the sidewalk in front of the building. We want everyone to be able to enjoy the spring weather this year!

CLOGGED SINK DRAINS

We are having some problems with residents putting inappropriate items down their drains; which is clogging up the main drain. Please do not put anything other than liquids down your drains, or flush in your toilet. This includes: grease, oils, medication or food waste. It is creating a lot of back up problems in many units. It might be convenient to just rinse with water and flush it down the drain. But trust us, it's not worth it, throw it in the trash instead.

TRASH CHUTE

As stated in the Rules and Regulations, trash is not to be put down the trash chute after 10:00 pm daily. Please be considerate of your neighbors and wait until the next day to take your trash to the trash room. Please do not leave the trash on the trash room floor.

RENT POLICY

Rent is due on the 1st of each month. We have a 10 day grace-period and after the 10th there is a 5% late fee charged to your account. (The late fee is 5% of the resident's portion of the rent). Anyone that doesn't pay their rent by the 11th will be filed in court, which is a \$30 fee. Please pay your rent on time. If you know you are going to have a problem paying you rent by the 10th, please come to my office to speak to me about this, otherwise, I will be filing in court on the 11th.
NO EXCEPTIONS

NON-SMOKING POLICY

We have a non-smoking policy at the Front Entrance; you can smoke on the Centre Street Side of the building. I appreciate how everyone has followed our new policy; it makes such a difference when walking in and out of the building. Thank you!

COMMON AREA

No food or drinks are allowed in any common area, inside and outside the building.

LIBRARY

Please do not sit on the arms of the chairs in the lobby or the library. We have noticed some residents have been doing that, and that is not how you sit on our furniture.

PETS

No resident can have a pet in their apartment without prior management approval. Each resident must fill out a pet addendum, pay our one-time pet fee (\$50.00) which is non-refundable, along with providing proof from the vet that your pet is updated on all shots. Any resident that has a pet without following the procedure will receive a notice from us that the pet must be removed immediately or a notice to vacate will follow. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**



Thanks,
Joan



COMPLIANCE UPDATE, JENNIFER COCO

**Financial Planning
Are you Organized?**

Information gathering is very important. There are many important financial documents you need to keep together-many are used annually for your recertification. Please keep: Copies of your Birth Certificate, Social Security Card and Current Photo ID, Pension statements, Checking/Savings statement; Investment Statement, Life Insurance

Policy and Statement. This could also include key documents like wills, powers of attorney, as well as physical items like keys to the car and your safe deposit box. It also helps to have account logins and passwords, and details that could help caregivers when you are incapacitated. If you need an envelope to keep these items in one place, please see the Compliance Office.

You should also make sure to keep updated beneficiary designation forms for all of your accounts. Beneficiary designation forms on life insurance policies, 401(k) accounts and other assets will generally override any conflicting provisions within a will or trust. It's essential to make sure all forms are checked and updated regularly, ideally on an annual basis.

If you need assistance with these issues, see your Resident Service Coordinator.



-Jen-

MAINTENANCE NEWS JEFFREY KNOX, SUPERVISOR



March is here and we're all looking forward to spring. The heat system continues to work well. Issues with individual thermostats are being resolved as they arise. If you have any questions or concerns about the system in your apartment, ask Jeffrey Knox.

I want to reiterate Ms. Campbell's comment regarding placing trash down the sink. Items such as grease, oils, food, etc. clogs the drain and can create problems in other units. Please discontinue the practice of placing inappropriate items in the sink.

For those of you that may want to get rid of any unwanted items in your apartment, please contact maintenance for assistance. We will remove the items directly out of the building for disposal without obstructing the trash rooms. And please remember that all trash must be placed in plastic bags before being placed into the trash chute; when disposing of needles or pins, placed them a safe container such as hard plastic or a can before throwing in the trash; and place depends in a plastic bag before placing it in the trash room.

Finally, no one is permitted to use their stove to add heat to their apartment. The thermostat is designed to maintain 78 to 80 degrees in your apartment. If we learn of a stove being used for heat,

the resident will receive a letter from management making it clear that this is a lease violation leading to termination of lease.

Notify the front desk if you are experiencing problems with roaches or mice by Thursday; any other concerns see the Compliance Office.

Remember, if you need a repair within your apartment, please contact the front desk personnel to have a maintenance request filled out. We'll do our best to take care of these issues as soon as possible. Once again, thanks for your patience.

Jeff



Resident Services, Sheila P. Alderman, Resident Services Coordinator

CORONAVIRUS PREP

We are in the midst of some very uncertain times because of the Coronavirus. We have been told and for now I believe that the risk is low: however, the same precautions should be taken to protect you as you would to avoid the cold or flu. Avoiding sick people and proper hand washing often is important. You Tube has a great video on proper hand washing. The one thing that I do want to share with you is being prepared for any economic impacts. More than 70% of our household items come from China. At this point, there has been a decrease in the number of cargo ships coming into the Port of Baltimore. This means that there may be shortages of items that we depend on. To that end, if you can, keep about a 2-3 weeks supply of the following items on hand if you use them.

FOOD

- Canned foods (soups, vegetables, fruits etc.)
- Nonperishable items (grains, pasta, Rice)
- Snacks (chips, crackers, nuts etc.)

DRINKS

- Bottled water
- Juices
- Electrolytes (Gatorade, Pedia sure etc.)

HYGIENE

- Antibacterial soaps
- Hand sanitizers and wipes
- Tissues
- Diapers and wipes
- Dish and Laundry detergents

Coronavirus cont'd

MEDICAL

- Thermometer
- Over the counter meds (pain relievers, cough syrups etc.
- Prescription meds (enough for at least a month)

These are only suggestions. The point is to be prepared for shortages or a possible quarantine if things worsen. If you have older members of your extended family, insure that have what they need and a plan is in place for them. I have faith that things will be fine with us. The important thing to remember is not to worry or panic, there is nothing that you can do other than what I have given you. Everything is out of our hands.

If you want additional information, visit:

- World Health Organization website (who.int) or
- Center for Disease Control website (cdc.gov)

Calling on Volunteers

We are in need of 2-3 First Responders for each floor. We need to be prepared for any disaster that may come (fire, hurricane, tornado, etc. I will be calling for a meeting next week. If interested please show up on the 18th floor. Meeting date will be posted. If not hard; you just have to knock on the doors of the people on your floor and let them know what's happening.



2020 Renter's Tax Credit Refund

It's that time again. So get ready. If your yearly income falls within the limited range for one or 2 in a household, you may be eligible for a refund tax credit. Applications are out and I have a supply in my office.

Listed are the items you will need to apply; and if needed, obtain copies of the need information from Jennifer. Please make sure you give Jennifer adequate time to obtain requested copies of or if you schedule an appointment with me, I will obtain the necessary papers from Jennifer on your behalf:

1. 2019 Award letter, 1099, W2, or Income Statements
2. Last Lease Agreement
3. Social Security Card
4. Picture ID



Sheila

RSC EVENTS

- 3/6 Cooking Class
Starts 10am & 1pm
- 3/10 Md. Food Bank 3:00 pm
- 3/11 Chronic Pain Management 1:00 pm
- 3/13 Monthly Trip 10:00 am
- 3/17 Nutrition Class 2:00 pm
- 3/18 Chronic Pain Management 1:00 pm
- 3/20 Cooking Class 10am & 1pm
- 3/25/ Chronic Pain Management 1:00 pm
- 3/27 Cooking Class 10am & 1pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

- Mondays-Shoprite Order Due 2:00 pm
- Tuesdays-Walmart Trip 12 noon
- Tuesdays-JHSN Visit 11:30 am
- Thursday-Shoprite Delivery



COMING ATTRACTION

Starting March 11th, Chronic Pain Management is coming to Westminster House. It is a 6 week program that will guide you to alternative ways are dealing with pain.



Chair Yoga is coming starting April 29th for six weeks sponsored by Baltimore Recreation and Parks.

MARCH'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Westminster House Apartments
524 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(In Historic Mount Vernon)

Phone: 410-837-0180

Fax: 410-685-4991

Website:

www.westminsterhouseapts.org

John Foss
Anna Lohmann
Gerald Horton
Belinda Guess
James Lowery
Ivy Anderson
William McCormick
Jordan Crosby
Wandra Jackson
Barry Leonard
Harold Wallace
Eleanor Broadway
Helen Wallace

Verzier Scott
Celia Madison
Robert Lay
Charles Butler
Theodore Gregory
Dorothy Davis
Joan Brooks
Marion Truxton
Marguerite Streater
Ellen Nagle
Larry Mack
David Jones

If your name is not listed above, please forgive us as we try to update our listing....we sincerely wish you have a very Happy Birthday. Also!!!, please advise us if you do not want your name included in future newsletters.

SICK AND SHUT Ins

Please make sure you appeal to these individuals. For we are all members of Westminster House and we are family.

Compassionate condolences are extended to all the family and friends of those we lost recently.

SERVICE COORDINATOR BENEFITS

What are the benefits of a service coordinator?

For seniors and disabled adults, service coordinators assist in accessing needed supportive services to allow them to:

- ◇ *Maintain their independence and remain in their homes*
- ◇ *Avoid premature admission to more costly institutionalized care*
- ◇ *For low-income families, service coordinators provide assistance and access to community-based supports, skills training and resources. They also work with the adults in the family to develop a plan of action to assist them in:*
- ◇ *Achieving greater economic security by linking them with programs to improve their literacy, job skills, education, and money management training*
- ◇ *Improving the educational performance of low-income children by linking them to after-school programs, nutritional assistance, and other programs to aid them in moving out of poverty*
- ◇ *For owners and operators of apartment communities, service coordinators can:*
 - Reduce apartment turnover and damage by intervening and assisting with resolution of lease violations*
 - Facilitate a stronger sense of community at affordable apartment complexes thereby decreasing crime and increasing the safety at and marketability of these facilities*